

**Department of Historic Resources**  
**Reconnaissance Level Survey**

**Accomack**

**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0121**

**Resource Identification**

Property Name(s): ..... WFF # Y-075 - Outdoor Electrical Substation  
{ Current}  
Property Date: ..... 1952  
Address(s): ..... Island Road { Current}  
County/Independent City: ..... Accomack  
Vicinity of: ..... Chincoteague  
State, Zip: ..... Virginia 23337  
USGS Quad Name: ..... WALLOPS ISLAND  
Surrounding area: ..... Rural

**National Register Eligibility Status**

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

**Resource Description**

Ownership Status: ..... Public - Federal  
Acreage: ..... 0.5

**Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:**

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Raised	Concrete	Foundation - Replacement Supports
Porch	Porch - None		
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	Structural System - Block

Site Description: ..... Located along the west side of Island Road between Y-40 (001-0027-0117) and Y-74 and the intersection of Island Road and the unnamed access road to Y-45 (001-0027-0118).

**WUZIT Count:**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Power Station	Historic

**NR Resource Count:**

**Individual Resource Information**

WUZIT: ..... Power Station

Est. Date of Construction: .... 1952 {Owner/site visit}      Accessed? ..... Yes  
Primary Resource? ..... Yes      Number of Stories: ..... 0.0  
Architectural Style: ..... Other      Condition: ..... Good  
Interior Plan Type: ..... Other      Threats to Resource: ..... None Known

Description: This structure is a modern concrete plinth set on a poured concrete slab foundation, which appears to be the only original component of the structure. The plinth supports four modern electrical panels and is accessed from grade by a short set of modern wood steps that leads to a wood deck that extends along the length of the east elevation. A modern metal hatch with two steel doors is located in the top surface of the plinth, along the eastern edge.

**Cemetery Information**

**Bridge Information**

**National Register Eligibility Information**

Historic Context(s): ..... Technology/Engineering

Historic Time Period(s): ..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

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*Significance Statement:* This structure was built in 1952 by the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA) and was part of some of the first NACA construction efforts on Wallops Island. The small structure is located just on the western side of Island Road, adjacent to the Propellant Shop (001-0027-0117, WFF # Y-040), WFF # Y-074 (not included in this survey), and a small T-shaped concrete pad that may have at one time supported a building. These structures are placed at the corner of Island Road and an access road that leads to the Igniter Magazine (001-0027-0118, WFF # Y-045) and Rocket Test Cell (001-0027-0119, WFF # Y-050). The structure has been greatly altered since its original construction.

The structure is representative of a secondary support structure associated with a Technology/Engineering property type built at the beginning of the New Dominion Period (1945 – present) period. The building was constructed as a component of a rocket research facility operated by the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) under the direction of NACA from 1946 to 1958. Until becoming part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, PARS functioned as a rocket research facility that continually refined its capacity to collect aeronautic and scientific data through improvements in radar tracking, radio telemetry, and photographic techniques that provided significant data for the development of Cold War missile technology and manned spaceflight during the Space Race.

The Outdoor Electrical Substation has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. As a secondary resource, it does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. The resource has been altered and does not retain its integrity and is not eligible under Criterion C as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

***Bibliographic Documentation***

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**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0121**

*Reference #: 1*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map  
*Author:* ..... U.S. Navy  
*Citation Abbreviation:* .....  
*Notes:* ..... "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1950.

*Reference #: 2*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map  
*Author:* ..... U.S. Navy  
*Citation Abbreviation:* .....  
*Notes:* ..... "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

*Reference #: 3*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Book  
*Author:* ..... Joseph Adams Shortal  
*Citation Abbreviation:* ..... Shortal, 1978  
*Notes:* ..... "A New Dimension; Wallops Flight Test Range: The First Fifteen Years," NASA Reference Publication 1028. National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Scientific and Technical Office: N.p., 1978.

*Reference #: 4*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map  
*Author:* ..... Giffels and Valet  
*Citation Abbreviation:* .....  
*Notes:* ..... Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

**Ownership Information**

**Graphic Media Documentation**

<u>Medium</u>	<u>Depository ID #</u>	<u>Photo Depository</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Name</u>
35mm B&W	21540	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 13-15

**Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events**

*CRM Event # 1,*

*Cultural Resource Management Event:* ..... Reconnaissance Survey  
*Date:* ..... 2004/07/99  
*Organization or Person:* ..... URS Group  
*VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:* .. 2003-0571  
*CRM Event Notes or Comments:* ..... 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

*CRM Event # 2,*

*Cultural Resource Management Event:* ..... Reconnaissance Survey  
*Date:* ..... 2003/08/08  
*Organization or Person:* ..... URS Group  
*VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:* .. 2003-0571  
*CRM Event Notes or Comments:* ..... 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700  
Bethesda, MD 20814